



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/612,456	07/02/2003	Yen-Fu Chen	AUS920030421US1	5390
35525	7590	02/09/2007		
IBM CORP (YA) C/O YEE & ASSOCIATES PC P.O. BOX 802333 DALLAS, TX 75380			EXAMINER KE. PENG	
			ART UNIT 2174	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS			02/09/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/612,456	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CHEN, YEN-FU	
	<b>Examiner</b> Peng Ke	<b>Art Unit</b> 2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                          |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims recites computer readable mediums which according to the specification include transmission-type media, such as digital and analog communications links, wired or wireless communications links using transmission forms, such as, for example radio frequency and light wave transmissions, and they are non-statutory subject matter.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 7, 8-11, 14, 15-18, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Easter US Publication 2004/073868.

As per claim 1, Easter teaches a method in a data processing system for presenting input fields from a document, the method comprising:

Identifying a selected indicator associated with a set of mandatory input fields in the document; (see Easter, paragraph 0124) and

Art Unit: 2174

Presenting only the set of mandatory input fields. (see Easter, paragraph 0124; Since each field's visibility is controlled, the users can set non-mandatory fields to invisible)

As per claim 2, Easter teaches the method of claim 1. Easter further teaches wherein the presenting step comprises display the set of mandatory input fields in a window. (see Easter; paragraph 0085; Figure 27)

As per claim 3, Easter teaches the method of claim 1. Easter further teaches wherein the presenting step comprises:

Reformatting the document to contain only the set of mandatory input fields. (see Easter, paragraph 0124; Since each field's visibility is controlled, the users can set non-mandatory fields to invisible)

As per claim 4, Easter teaches the method of claim 1. Easter further teaches wherein the presenting step comprises:

Presenting a first input field from the set of mandatory input fields; (see Easter; paragraph 0043) and

Responsive to information being entered in the first input field, presenting a second input field from the set of mandatory input fields. (see Easter; paragraph 0043; the event, which second field becomes required or optional instead of read-only, is presenting a second input)

As per claim 7, Easter teaches the method of claim 1. Easter further teaches the method comprising:

Determining whether any of the set of mandatory input fields correspond to pre-stored information; (see Easter; paragraph 0038); and

Art Unit: 2174

Responsive to an input field within the set of mandatory input fields corresponding to pre-stored information, filling the input field with the pre-stored information. (see Easter; paragraph 0038; Automatic population of items is filling the input field)

As per claims 8-11 and 14; 15-18 and 21; they are rejected with same rationale as claim 1-4 and 7. Supra.

As per claim 22, it is of the same scope as claim 1. Supra.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Easter in view of . Philippe; US Patent 6,882,981

As per claim 5, Easter teaches the method of claim 1. However, Easter fails to teach the indicator is a hypertext markup language tag.

Philippe teaches the indicator is a hypertext markup language tag. (see Philippe; column 5, lines 20-40)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Philippe's teaching with method of Easter in order to allow users to fill out the application over the internet.

As per claim 6, Easter and Philippe teach the method of claim 5. Philippe further teaches the document is a web page. (see Philippe; column 5, lines 20-40)

Art Unit: 2174

As per claims 12 and 13; 19 and 20; they are rejected with the same rationale as claim 5 and 6. Supra.

### *Conclusion*

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to  
Registration Form:

Coffman: US Patent 2004/215467 discloses a method and system for electronic document handling, such as for requests for quotations under an electronic auction.

Borg: US Publication 2004/0205530: discloses a system and method to automatically complete electronic form.

Shelton: US Patent 5,325,478: discloses a method discloses a method for displaying information from an information based computer system.

Art Unit: 2174

*Contact information*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Peng Ke

*Kristine Kincaid*  
KRISTINE KINCAID  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100